

A² Application No. 09/215,370, filed December 18, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,121,384, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/978,510, filed November 25, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,869,578, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/560,763, filed November 21, 1995, now abandoned. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/225,341, filed January 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,084,016, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/828,636, filed March 31, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,856,388, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/482,520, filed June 7, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,616,640. The entire disclosures of these applications are incorporated by reference herein. 11/0
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IN THE CLAIMS

A marked up version of the amended claims, showing insertions and deletions, is included in Appendix C. Please cancel claims 1-20 and add the following claims:

- A³
21. (New) A golf ball having at least one layer, wherein the layer is formed of a polymer blend comprising:
at least one ionomer having a flexural modulus of about 60,000 psi or greater; and
at least one oxa ester, oxa acid, or a combination thereof.
- no basis? in parent
22. (New) The golf ball of claim 21, wherein the ionomer comprises about 16 percent to about 35 percent by weight acrylic or methacrylic acid.
23. (New) The golf ball of claim 21, wherein the golf ball has an Atti compression of at least 50 and a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.7.
24. (New) The golf ball of claim 21, wherein the layer has a hardness of at least about 15 Shore A, a flexural modulus of at least about 500 psi, and a specific gravity of at least about 0.7.
25. (New) The golf ball of claim 21, wherein the layer further comprises at least one density adjusting filler.

26. (New) The golf ball of claim 25, wherein the density adjusting filler is a metallic powder, a metallic oxide derivative, or a combination thereof.
27. (New) The golf ball of claim 26, wherein the density adjusting filler comprises titanium, tungsten, tin, copper, or a combination thereof.
28. (New) The golf ball of claim 21, wherein the golf ball comprises a cover formed of a thermoplastic polyurethane, a thermoset polyurethane, a urethane ionomer, a urethane epoxy, or a combination thereof.
29. (New) The golf ball of claim 28, wherein the cover is formed of a thermoplastic polyurethane, a thermoset polyurethane, or a combination thereof.
30. (New) The golf ball of claim 29, wherein the cover has a hardness of about 40 Shore D to about 70 Shore D and a flexural modulus of about 10,000 psi to about 100,000 psi.
31. (New) A golf ball having at least one layer, wherein the layer is formed of a polymer blend comprising:
at least one acid-containing copolymer ionomer component comprising E/X/Y copolymers, wherein E is ethylene, X is a softening comonomer, and Y is acrylic or methacrylic acid, and wherein Y is present in an amount from about 16 percent to about 35 percent by weight of the component; and
at least one oxa ester, oxa acid, or a combination thereof.
32. (New) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein Y is present in an amount from about 18.5 percent to about 21.5 percent by weight of the component.
33. (New) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the layer is disposed between a core and a cover.
34. (New) The golf ball of claim 33, wherein the layer has a thickness of about 0.02 inches or greater.

35. (New) The golf ball of claim 33, wherein the cover comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane, a thermoset polyurethane, or a combination thereof.
36. (New) The golf ball of claim 33, wherein the cover has a hardness of about 40 Shore D to about 70 Shore D and a flexural modulus of about 10,000 psi to about 100,000 psi.
37. (New) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the layer further comprises at least one density adjusting filler.
38. (New) The golf ball of claim 33, wherein the core comprises polybutadiene.
39. (New) A golf ball having at least one layer, wherein the layer is formed of a polymer blend comprising:
- at least one thermoplastic component having a flexural modulus of about 60,000 psi or greater; and
 - at least one oxa ester, oxa acid, or a combination thereof.
40. (New) The golf ball of claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic component comprises an acid-containing copolymer ionomer component comprising E/X/Y copolymers, wherein E is ethylene, X is a softening comonomer, and Y is acrylic or methacrylic acid.
41. (New) The golf ball of claim 40, wherein Y is present in an amount from about 16 percent to about 35 percent by weight of the component.
42. (New) The golf ball of claim 39, wherein the thermoplastic component comprises a saponified ionomer.
43. (New) The golf ball of claim 39, wherein the layer is disposed between a core and a cover.
44. (New) The golf ball of claim 43, wherein the cover comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane, a thermoset polyurethane, or a combination thereof.

50,000 psi and 60,000 psi
 1/20000 psi
 just new softening comonomer